

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR DRAFT WATER QUALITY RESTORATION
STUDY (TMDL) AND IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING FOR THE CHICKAHOMINY RIVER
AND TRIBUTARIES IMPAIRED FOR BACTERIA IN HANOVER, HENRICO, CHARLES CITY,
NEW KENT COUNTIES & CITY OF RICHMOND**

PUBLIC MEETING: Mechanicsville Branch Library, 7461 Sherwood Crossing Place, Mechanicsville, Virginia 23111. Public meetings will be held on Thursday, May 24, 2012 at 2pm and 6pm. Both meetings are open to the public. Afternoon and evening meetings will cover the same material.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality is announcing a draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study to restore water quality and the initiation of the Implementation Plan (IP) for waterbodies mentioned above.

MEETING DESCRIPTION: Public meetings provide an opportunity for the public to share their knowledge of the watershed and learn about pollution affecting community waters. Meetings will feature a summary of information from the draft TMDL, including watershed land use, water quality monitoring, suspected sources of bacteria, and the reduction of source bacteria required to meet water quality standards and will also feature an introduction of Implementation Planning (IP) for the watershed. Those attending the meeting are invited to ask questions, contribute their knowledge of the watershed, and participate in the working groups as part of the IP phase.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Virginia agencies have been working to identify sources of the bacteria waters of the Chickahominy River and its tributaries:

Stream	County/City	Length (mi.)	Impairment
Stony Run	Hanover	0.21	Bacteria (Primary Contact / Swimming Use)
Beaverdam Creek	Hanover	6.69	
Chickahominy River	Henrico, Hanover	7.54	
Boatswain Creek	Hanover	3.76	
Collins Run	Charles City County	4.50	

These streams are impaired for failure to meet the *Primary Contact (Recreational or Swimming)* designated use due to bacteria. The study reports on the sources of bacteria and recommends total maximum daily loads, or TMDLs, for impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, bacterial levels need to be reduced to the TMDL amount. The draft TMDL report will be available at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/TMDL/TMDLDevelopment/DraftTMDLReports.aspx> one week prior to the meeting for review. The Implementation Planning (IP) phase utilizes the source information and reductions necessary to meet water quality standards in order to devise a series of watershed measures, known as Best Management Practices (BMPs). BMPs can be implemented throughout the watershed in order to meet the TMDL bacteria reduction goals. The IP

phase requires the participation of watershed stakeholders at “working group” meetings to evaluate BMPs for the watersheds and the participation of a steering committee, made up of working group members, to guide the process.

HOW A DECISION IS MADE: After the public meeting and all public comments have been considered and addressed, DEQ will submit the final TMDL report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State Water Control Board for approval. When the IP report is eventually completed, following working group & steering committee meetings, draft review and final public meeting and comment period, it will be provided to the State Water Control Board for approval.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include your name, address and telephone number and be received by DEQ during the comment period, which will begin on Friday May 25th and end on Monday June 25, 2012.

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